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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 2 0 2004

Serial No .:

10/709,312

Conf. No.:

Art Unit:

2125

3311

Filing Date: 04/28/2004

Examiner:

Shechtman

Applicant:

Conrad et al

Docket No.: BUR920040098US1

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

OPTIMIZING MANUFACTURING PROCESSES USING REAL TIME PARTITIONED PROCESS

CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

#### COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

**DESTINATION FACSIMILE NUMBER:** 

703-872-9306

Transmitted herewith is:

Amendment in 14 pages

in the above identified application.

- No additional fee is required.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 09-0456 (IBM) as described below.
  - Credit any overpayment.
  - Charge any additional fee required.

Michael F. Hoffman, Reg. No. 40,019

DATE: December 20, 2004

### CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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Applicant: Conrad et al.  Application No.: 10/709,312  Filed: 04/28/2004	) Examiner: Shechtman ) Art Unit: 3311 )		
		For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR	,
		OPTIMIZING MANUFACTURING PROCESSES	j
USING REAL TIME PARTITIONED PROCESS	)		
CAPABILITY ANALYSIS	)		
Mail Stop Amendment			
Commissioner for Patents			
P.O. Box 1450			
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450			

Sir:

## **Introductory Comments**

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action of September 20, 2004.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the remarks that follow.